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62-1086

20 February 1962

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR

1. This memorandum is for information only.

2. The State Department prepared the following statement in which I concurred, and which they cleared with the White House. It will be issued today by Lincoln White at State. The statement was prepared by Joe Reap of State, following my conversation with him and with Salinger. I have informed Dick Helms of this statement. The State Department's issuance of this statement today will very likely result in no question on these points being asked at tomorrow's White House press conference. The statement follows:

> "The State Department's attention has been directed to press reports (citing a weekly news magazine) that Francis Gary Powers had been subjected to a lie detector test and drugs in the course of interrogation by Government officials.
>
> "This report is totally inaccurate. Powers is cooperating fully with his interrogators. He has not been given any lie detector test, although he has offered to take such a test. He has not been given any drugs, nor is there any thought being given to the administration of drugs to Powers."

25X1A

[redacted]

Assistant to the Director

NOTE: If asked what would be the purpose of Powers' volunteering to take a lie detector test, White will say that it will indicate Powers' willingness to do everything possible to let the Government officials and the American people know that he is cooperating and wants to tell the whole truth as he knows it.

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